

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 10/627,772
Attorney Docket No. Q76583

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement sheet of drawings includes the addition of the legend of --Prior Art-- to FIG_1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet (FIG_1)

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REMARKS

Summary Of The Office Action & Formalities

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. By this Amendment, Applicant is amending claims 1, 3-8, 10, 11, 12 and 14, and canceling claim 2. Claims 1 and 3-16 are now pending in the application. The rejections are respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim to foreign priority and for confirming that the certified copy of the priority document was received.

Applicant also thanks the Examiner for initialing the references listed on form PTO/SB/08 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on July 28, 2003.

In addition, the specification has been amended to add a description for FIG_14 in the Brief Description of the Drawings section. No new matter has been added, and support for the added description can be found on page 9, lines 30-34.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner states that Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. A proposed drawing correction is being filed concurrently herewith in which the label of --Prior Art-- has been added to FIG_1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to approve the drawing correction and withdraw the outstanding objection to the drawings.

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Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for the reasons alleged on pages 2-3 of the Office Action. In response, the claims have been editorially amended. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, should be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges with gratitude the indication that claims 2-8 and 11-14 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in the Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to include all of the elements of claim 2. Claim 2 has subsequently been cancelled. Claims 1, 3-8, 11, 12 and 14 have further been amended to depend upon amended claim 1.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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